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DELIVER TO:

Examiner J. Wilson

Group Art Unit:

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February 18, 1997 DATE:

FROM: Patrick J. Hagan, Esq.

Tina Doyle OPERATOR:

OUR REF:

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U.S. Patent Application No. 08/338,567 Re:

January 12/ 1995 Filed:

HEALTH SUPPLEMENTS CONTAINING PHYTO-For:

OESTROGENS ANALOGUES OR METABOLITES THEREOF

Graham Edmund Kelly

Transmitted herewith are discussion drafts of the following papers relating to the above-identified patent application: (i) Amendment and Request for Reconsideration Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111; and (ii) Declaration of Graham Edmund Kelly Under 37 C.F.R. §1.132.

These papers are being sent for your consideration in advance of our interview on February 19, 1997 at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DANN, DORFMAN, HERRELL AND SKILLMAN A Professional Corporation

Вy

PATRICK J. HAGAN

PTO Registration No. 27,643

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper for U.S. Patent Application No. 08/338,567 is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office fax number 703-305-5246 on the date shown below.

Tina M. Doyle

Type or print name of person signing certificate

February 18, 1997

Date

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

In response to the September 10, 1996 Official Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

Add the attached "Abstract of the Disclosure" as the next succeeding page of the application following the claims.

In the Claims:

Claims 2, 3, 6, 7 and 9, line 1 of each claim, change "supplement" to -- composition --; and change "1" to -- 29 --.

Claims 5, 8, 20 and 21, line 1 of each claim, change "supplement" to -- composition --.

Claims 12, 14, 15, 16 and 17, line 1 of each claim, change "10" to -- 30 --.

- 2 -

Please add the following new claims:

- 29. A health supplement composition comprising an extract from soya or clover, said composition comprising any two or more phyto-estrogens of the group Genistein, Daidzein, Biochanin A. Formonoetin or the glycosides of any of said phyto-estrogens.
- condition selected from the group consisting of benign breast disease, premenstrual syndrome (PMS), symptoms associated with menopause, cancer of the prostate, cancer of the bowel, or elevated blood cholesterol, said method comprising administering to a subject having said condition or at rick administering to a subject having said condition or at rick supplement composition comprising an extract from soya or clover, said composition comprising any two or more phytoestrogens of the group Genistein, Daidzein, Biochanin A, Formonoetin or the glycosides of any of said phyto-estrogens.
 - 31. A method according to claim 30, wherein said composition is administered for the treatment or prevention of elevated levels of cholesterol in the blood stream.
 - 32. A method according to claim 30, wherein said composition is administered for the treatment of cancer of the prostate.
 - 33. A method according to claim 30, wherein said composition is administered for the treatment of pre-menstrual syndrome (PMS).
 - 34. A method according to claim 30, wherein said composition is administered for the treatment of symptoms associated with menopause.

- 3 -

35. A method according to claim 30, wherein said composition is administered for the treatment of benign breast disease.

Cancel claims 1, 4, 10, 11, 18-20 and 23-28.

REMARKS

The September 10, 1996 Official Action and the references cited therein have been carefully considered. In view of the amendments presented herewith and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

In the September 10 Official Action, a formal objection has been raised under 37 C.F.R. §1.72(b), and an abstract on a separate sheet is required.

Also in the September 10 Official Action, the specification has been objected to, and claims 1-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. \$112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to adequately teach how to make and use the claimed invention. The reasons on which these related grounds of objection and rejection are premised appear at pages 2-10 of the Official Action. These reasons include a lengthy discussion of the so-called "Forman factors" in support of the contention that undue experimentation would be required on the part of those skilled in the art in order to practice the claimed invention. According to the Examiner, the amount of experimentation needed to verify the efficacy of the potential compositions for inclusion in a health supplement would be voluminous and unduly burdensome in view of the teachings of the instant disclosure.

Claims 1-9, 21 and 22 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly unpatentable in view of the disclosure of U.S. Patent 4,366,082 to Zilliken. According to the Examiner, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include one or more phyto-oestrogen compounds into a composition to

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improve the health of the recipient, because the prior art discloses the inclusion of this class of compounds generically into compositions to be used as anti-oxidants.

In accordance with the present amendment, the specification has been amended to include an abstract on a single sheet as required under 37 C.F.R. §1.72(b).

Turning to the present claim amendments, claim 1 has been rewritten as claim 29, which is directed to a health supplement composition comprising an extract from soya or clover, the composition comprising any two or more phytoocstrogens selected from the group consisting of Genistein, Daidzein, Biochanin A, Formononetin or the glycosides of any of said phyto-oestrogens. Claim 10 has also been rewritten as new claim 30, which is drawn to a method for the treatment or prevention of a condition selected from the group consisting of benign breast disease, premenstrual syndrome (PMS), symptoms associated with menopause, cancer of the prostate, cancer of the bowel, or elevated blood cholesterol, said method comprising administering to a subject having said condition or at risk thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a health supplement composition comprising an extract from soya or clover, said composition comprising any two or more phyto-estrogens of the group Genistein, Daidzein, Biochanin A, Formonoetin or the glycosides of any of said phyto-estrogens.

New claims 31-35 are directed to the treatment and/or prevention of the following specific conditions: (i) elevated levels of cholesterol in the blood stream; (ii) cancer of the prostate; (iii) pre-menstrual syndrome; (iv) symptoms associated with menopause; and (v) benign breast disease.

The present amendments further define the composition of the invention, as well as conditions described in the specification that are treatable with the composition of the invention. Support for the compositions containing extracts of soya or clover is specifically provided, for

example, at pages 11 and 12 and in Examples 1 and 2 at pages 17 through 19.

The recitation of "improving the health of the human" has been omitted from the amended claims presented herewith.

No new matter has been introduced into this application by reason of these amendments.

In view of the foregoing amendments, the objection to the specification and related rejection of claims 1-28 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, based on alleged inadequate enablement, and the 35 U.S.C. §103 rejection of claims 1-9, 21 and 22 based on the Zilliken patent are respectfully traversed.

1. As Presently Amended, Applicant's Claims
Fully Comply with the Enablement Requirement
of 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph

Initially, it is noted that at page 3 of the September 10, 1996 Official Action, the Examiner acknowledges the sufficiency of applicant's disclosure with regard to lowering of cholesterol levels. That being the case, this ground of rejection is clearly inapplicable to new claim 31

Addressing the "how to make" requirement of 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, methodology for obtaining the active agents of the present invention, namely, Cenistein, Daidzein, Biochanin A, Formononetin or the glycosides of such phyto-oestrogens is described in detail at pages 11-13 of the present specification and exemplified in Example 1 (derivation from red clover) and Example 2 (derivation from soy beans), at pages 17-19 of the present specification. These examples produce compositions from clover and soy which are not limited only to Genistein and Daidzein, or to any specific ratio of the active agents.

Turning to the "how to use" requirement of §112, first paragraph, the pharmaceutically effective amounts of the composition are described in detail at page 14 of the

specification and specifically exemplified in Examples 3 and 4. Example 3 describes the beneficial therapeutic effect of administering red clover extract to humans which is manifested in a lowering of total serum cholesterol levels, without producing any undesirable side effects. Example 4 describes the beneficial therapeutic effect of administering soy hypocotyls which is manifested in both lower cholesterol levels and amelioration of benign breast disease. Furthermore, these examples show therapeutic treatment wherein the composition of the invention is administered in an amount of 100 mg. (Example 3) and 50 mg. (Example 4) on a daily basis.

As for the additional conditions specified in the newly added claims, there is submitted herewith a Declaration of Graham Edmund Kelly, the inventor herein, which establishes that treatments conducted at his request or under his supervision, in accordance with this invention, were shown to be effective with respect to (i) prostate cancer; (ii) benign or cystic breast disease; (iii) pre-menstrual tension; and (iv) symptoms of menopause.

The Declaration of Dr. Kelly further shows that therapeutic effectiveness is evidenced when the compositions of the invention are administered in an amount from 40 mg to 240 mg of phyto-oestrogen, i.e., precisely those amounts described at page 14 of the present specification as the preferred dosage amounts.

The Declaration of Dr. Kelly provides clear evidence demonstrating that the scope of enablement provided by the present specification is clearly commensurate with the scope of patent protection sought by the amended claims. Such declaration evidence is properly presented in rebutting an allegation of inadequate enablement under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. In re Armbruster, 185 U.S.P.Q. 152 (CCPA 1975). As was the case in Armbruster, the Declaration of Dr. Kelly is being submitted only to demonstrate that the teaching in the specification is adequately enabling.

- 7 -

In summary, the pharmaceutically effective amounts of the compositions are described specifically at page 14 of the present specification and more particularly exemplified in Examples 3 and 4. Moreover, the therapeutic treatment set forth in Dr. Kelly's declaration fully support the dosage ranges referred to at page 14. The present specification provides an enabling description of the lowering of cholesterol levels and the treatment of benign breast disease in Examples 3 and 4. The Declaration of Dr. Kelly specifically demonstrates the treatment of the additional conditions which are specifically claimed in the amendments presented herewith, namely, the treatment of prostate cancer, benign or cystic breast disease, premenstrual syndrome and symptoms associated with menopause.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the objection to the specification and related rejection of claims 1-28 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, is untenable and should be withdrawn.

The Disclosure of Zilliken Does Not Render Obvious the Subject Matter of Claims 1-9, 21 and 22

As noted by the Board of Appeals in Ex Parte Wolters, 214 U.S.P.Q. 735 (Bd. Apps. 1979), the burden of establishing a prima facie case of obviousness falls upon the Examiner. In determining whether a case of prima facie obviousness exists, it is necessary to ascertain whether or not the disclosure of the cited prior art would appear to be sufficient to one of ordinary skill in the art to make the substitution, combination or other modification required to arrive at the claimed subject matter. In re Lalu, 223 U.S.P.Q. 1257 (Fed. Cir. 1984). In the present case, there is nothing to suggest the modification of the compounds disclosed in Zilliken which is required to arrive at the compositions claimed by applicant herein.

The Zilliken patent purports to disclose a class of

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isoflavone derivatives recoverable from a substance known as "temph", which possess anti-oxidant properties. The utility disclosed for these isoflavone derivatives is in the "stabilization of a wide variety of food products including edible fats and oils" (see column 2, lines 20-22).

All of the isoflavone derivatives possessing antioxidant properties, as disclosed in the Zilliken patent have
an -OR substituent in the 6-position of the structural
formula, wherein R may be a methyl, ethyl or hydrogen
substituent, as described at columns 2 and 3 of the Zilliken
patent. The active agent incorporated in the compositions of
the present invention, by contrast, are unsubstituted in the
6-position. See the structural formula set out at page 9 of
the present specification.

Although the Zilliken patent acknowledges that Genistein and Daidzein are recoverable from temph, there is no clear disclosure that Genistein and Daidzein possess antioxidant properties, or indeed are within the ambit of the invention described and claimed in the Zilliken patent. On the contrary, a review of the Zilliken patent claims plainly reveals that Genistein and Daidzein are outside the scope thereof for the reasons stated above, i.e., all of the isoflavone derivatives set forth in the Zilliken patent claims include a substituent in the 6-position of the claimed structural formula.

Thus, the evidence of alleged obviousness in this case fails to show or suggest the removal of the -OR substituent from the isoflavone derivatives disclosed in the Zilliken patent, which is required to arrive at the compounds comprising the composition of the present invention. In the absence of such showing or suggestion, there is inadequate support for the Examiner's position that the compositions claimed by applicant herein would have been prima facie obvious. Cf., In re Grabiak, 226 U.S.P.Q. 870 (Fed. Cir. 1985).

Furthermore, the molecular modification of the

Zilliken isoflavone derivatives which is required to arrive at the active agents of the present invention cannot be presumed to be obvious from the disclosure of the Zilliken patent, inasmuch as such modification would be clearly contrary to the invention which is the subject of the Zilliken patent, i.e., isoflavone derivatives having an -OR substituent at the 6-position of the structural formula. Cf., Ex Parte Hartman, 186 U.S.P.Q. 366 (Bd. Apps. 1974).

Furthermore, the Zilliken patent plainly fails to show or suggest the ratios, dosage amounts and dosage forms called for in applicant's claims 6-9.

Inasmuch as the Zilliken patent fails to show or suggest the claimed subject matter as a whole, it necessarily follows that the Zilliken patent does not render applicant's claims 1-9, 21 and 22 prima facie obvious. It necessarily follows, therefore, that no evidence of unusual or unexpected results need be presented in this case. In re Lunsford, 148 U.S.P.Q. 721 (CCPA 1966). Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1-9, 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103 based on the disclosure of the Zilliken patent is improper and should be withdrawn.

In view of the amendments presented herewith and the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully urged that the objections and rejections set forth in the September 10, 1996 Official Action be withdrawn and that this application be passed to issue, and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

DANN, DORFMAN, HERRELL AND SKILLMAN A Professional Corporation

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Enclosure: Declaration of Graham Edmund Kelly



ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Compositions enriched with natural phyto-oestrogens or analogues thereof selected from Cenistein, Daidzein, Formononetin and Biochanin A. These may be used as food additives, tablets or capsules for treatment or prevention of certain cancers, pre-menstrual syndrome, menopause or hypercholesterolemia.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Examiner: J. Wilson

GRAHAM EDMUND KELLY

Group Art Unit: 1211

Application No. 08/338,567

Filed: January 12, 1995

For: HEALTH SUPPLEMENTS CONTAINING PHYTO-OESTROGENS ANALOGUES OR METABOLITES THEREOF

DECLARATION OF GRAHAM EDMUND KELLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.132

- I, Graham Edmund Kelly, a citizen of the Commonwealth of Australia, residing at 1/47 Coolawin Road, Northbridge, New South Wales, Commonwealth of Australia, do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:
- I am Chief Executive Officer of Norvet Ltd. and am the inventor of the subject application.
- 2. I am a research scientist and hold the degrees of Bachelor of Science (Vet) from the University of Sydney (1968); Bachelor of Veterinary Science from the University of Sydney (1969); and Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Sydney (1972). I have worked in the field of medical and veterinary research for approximately twenty-five years.
- 3. I have read the Office Action in connection with U.S. Patent Application No. 08/338,567 by Examiner Wilson, dated 10 September 1996.
- 4. The health supplement composition comprising an extract from soya or clover as claimed in the patent application has been used in a series of therapeutic treatments conducted at my request and/or under my supervision. Details of these treatments are set forth below.

Compositions

Compositions comprising an extract of soya or clover were prepared in accordance with Examples 1 and 2 at pages 18 and 19 of the subject application 08/338,567. These compositions, for convenience referred to as "the inventive composition", were prepared comprising 40 mg, 80 mg, 120 mg, 160 mg and 240 mg of phyto-estrogen.

Treatments

Prostate Cancer

Two patients diagnosed with prostate cancer were treated initially with the inventive composition comprising 240 mg per day, and subsequently 120 mg per day phytoestrogen. The PSA levels, a marker for prostate cancer, were stabilized in these patients and there has been no rise in the PSA levels subsequently. This demonstrates the treatment of prostatic cancer in these individuals.

A further patient diagnosed with malignant prostate cancer (PSA 13.1 μ g/L) was treated with the inventive composition. The patient was treated with the composition comprising 160 mg per day phyto-estrogen, seven days prior to prostatectomy. Histological comparison was made of the preoperative needle biopsy and the prostatectomy specimen. The needle biopsy revealed low grade infiltrating adenocarcinoma. The prostatectomy specimen showed mild patchy microvacuolation and prominent apoptosis (programmed cell death). Lymph nodes were negative for malignancy. The degenerative changes in the prostatectomy specimen, especially the apoptosis, show treatment of the prostatic cancer.

Benign or Cystic Breast Disease

A patient with benign or cystic breast disease was treated with 160 mg of the inventive composition administered orally on a daily basis. The patient exhibited no breast tenderness, which was maintained when the dosage level was reduced to 80 mg. Her symptoms did not return and she continues to have relief from mastalgia.

Pre-Menstrual Syndrome (PMS)

Nine women were treated with 80 mg per day of the inventive composition and were screened for the well-described symptoms of PMS including psychological, psychiatric, gynecological and personal status. Relief from PMS in these various symptoms was observed across the treatment group.

Menopause

Eight menopausal women were divided into two groups of four and treated with either 40 mg or 160 mg of the inventive composition administered orally on a daily basis. Four patients were also treated with a placebo composition. Indicators measured were incidence or severity of hot flushes, night sweats. Green score, vaginal pH, vaginal cytology and mean cholesterol levels across the treatment groups. A significant change in menstrual symptoms was observed and a dose response change was observed between the 40 mg and 160 mg dosage range. This indicating that 160 mg per day was the most effective dosage for treatment of menopausal symptoms.

5. These studies show that a composition according to the invention described and claimed in U.S. Patent Application No. 08/338,567 is effective in the treatment of:

Prostate cancer

- 4 **-**

Benign or cystic breast disease

(mastalgia)

- Pre-menstrual syndrome
- Symptoms of menopause
- and 20 of the subject application 08/338,567, a composition according to the invention was effective in the treatment of elevated levels of cholesterol in the blood stream.

The undersigned declares further that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that the statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or patent issuing thereon.